

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 AID-20 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10

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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS:ECWA, XF, XI
SUBJECT:ECWA:MEMBERSHIP PROCEDURES

REF: BEIRUT 4601

OUR COMMENTS ON ECWA'S ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS, WHICH SHOULD BE FOR EMBASSY'S USE ONLY, WILL HAVE TO BE CONTINGENT ON FACT SECRETARIAT IS STILL DRAFTING COMMISSION'S RULES OF PROCEDURES. ON BASIS OF ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1818 (LV), WE ASSUME, HOWEVER, PROCEDURES WILL BE ROUGHLY SAME AS THOSE FOR OTHER REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, I.E. APPROVAL BY BOTH COMMISSION AND ECOSOC WILL BE REQUIRED. ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT IT IS CLEAR FROM RES 1818 THAT COMMISSION MUST TAKE FIRST ACTION IN RECOMMENDING FINAL APPROVAL TO ECOSOC. ALTHOUGH THAT IS WAY MEMBERSHIP ACTION USUALLY TAKES PLACE IN OTHER COMMISSIONS, THAT ORDER OF EVENTS IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT STATED SO PRECISELY FOR THEM.

MEMBERSHIP NORMALLY REQUIRES THAT APPLICANT BE UN MEMBER AND WITHIN REGION DEFINED BY COMMISSION RULES. ECWA, HOWEVER, DOES NOT (IN RES 1818) DEFINE ITS REGION IN GEOGRAPHIC TERMS, BUT INSTEAD RELATES IT TO HAVING RECEIVED SERVICES FROM UNESOB. IN LAST SUMMER'S DEBATE ON FOUNDING ECWA, WE TOOK NO POSITION ON WHETHER ITS AREA SHOULD BE DEFINED BY GEOGRAPHY OR USE OF UNESOB.

IN EITHER CASE THERE WAS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ISRAEL. ANYWAY, NO MATTER WHAT THE BASIS, ECOSOC CAN STILL AMEND ECWA'S RULES TO ADMIT ANY COUNTRY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION.

ONE OTHER POSSIBLY RELEVANT POINT IS THAT DEPENDENT AREAS WHOSE FOREIGN RELATIONS ARE HANDLED BY ANOTHER COUNTRY MUST BE SPONSORED FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP IN OLDER COMMISSIONS BY THAT LATTER COUNTRY.

WHETHER ALL ECWA MEMBERS MUST FAVOR AN APPLICANT BEFORE FAVORABLE ACTION IS RECOMMENDED TO ECOSOC WILL PROBABLY BE UP TO THE COMMISSION ITSELF TO DECIDE. IN OTHER COMMISSIONS, MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE USUALLY AGREED TO UNANIMOUSLY AND WITHOUT FORMAL VOTE. RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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